

27.404-4 Contractor's release, publication, and use of data.

(a) In contracts for basic or applied research with universities or colleges, agencies *shall* not place any restrictions on the conduct of or reporting on the results of unclassified basic or applied research, except as provided in applicable U.S. statutes. However, agencies *may* restrict the release or disclosure of *computer software* that is or is intended to be developed to the point of practical application (including for agency distribution under established programs). This is not considered a restriction on the reporting of the results of basic or applied research. Agencies *may* also preclude a contractor from asserting copyright in any *computer software* for purposes of established agency distribution programs, or where required to accomplish the purpose for which the software is acquired.

(b) Except for the results of basic or applied research under contracts with universities or colleges, agencies *may*, to the extent provided in their FAR supplements, place limitations or restrictions on the contractor's exercise of its rights in *data* first produced in the performance of the contract, including a requirement to assign copyright to the Government or another party. Any of these restrictions *shall* be expressly included in the contract.

Parent topic: [27.404 Basic rights in data clause.](#)